THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The Thirteenth Session of the Legislative Council under the Constitution of India.

Monday, the 8th September 1958.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, the Deputy Chairman (SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAI) in the Chair.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

I.—CONDOLENCE RESOLUTIONS ON THE DEATH OF:

(1) SRI V. CHAKKARAI CHETTIAR, A FORMER MEMBER OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND

(2) DR. M. R. GURUSWAMI MUDALIAR, A SITTING MEMBER OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I deeply regret to announce to the House the death of Sri V. Chakkarai Chettiar, a former Member of this House, on the 14th June 1958. He was a Member of the Madras Legislative Council from 1952–1958.

Born in 1880, Sri V. Chakkarai Chettiar completed his collegiate education in Arts and Law at Madras. He entered politics early in life and joined the Indian National Congress. He also took a very active part in the Home Rule Movement and went to England in 1917 as a member of the Home Rule Deputation. He was regarded as the Father of the Trade Union Movement in South India and, in collaboration with the late Tiru.Vi.Ka. and others, he founded the Madras Labour Union. He was the President of the All-India Trade Union Congress and was also connected with a number of labour movements. He was a Member of the Corporation of Madras for a long number of years and was elected as Mayor for a term. As Mayor, he organized relief work for the evacuees of Burma during the Second World War. He was a renowned veteran labour leader and was held in high esteem and deep affection by the workers for his devoted and selfless services in the cause of labour over several decades.

Last but not least, though his membership of the Council was for one term only from 1952–58, he evinced keen and lively interest in the proceedings of the House and made valuable contributions to the debates on the floor of the House. He endeared himself to one and all and everyone was struck by his simplicity, affability and high sense of duty. His death has removed from the labour world a devoted friend of labour and its doughty champion.

I now move a Condolence Resolution, namely—

"This House places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the demise of Sri V. Chakkarai Chettiar, a former Member of this House, and conveys its sympathy to the members of his bereaved family".

I request you all to stand in silence for a few minutes and pass the Resolution unanimously.

The Resolution was passed *nem. con.*, all the Members standing in silence for a few minutes.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : It is my most melancholic duty now to refer to the sad demise of Dr. M. R. Guruswami Mudaliar, a nominated Member of this House, on the 26th June 1958. Indeed we meet to-day under the shadow of deep sorrow caused by his death.

Rightly called the doyen of the medical profession in South India, Dr. M. R. Guruswami Mudaliar was born in a village near Bangalore and had his early education at the Bangalore Central College and later joined the Madras Medical College with a scholarship awarded by the Mysore Government. He took his M.B. and C.M. degree in due course and won the Chipperfield Gold Medal in Surgery. He served the Mysore Government as Officer-in-charge of anti-plague campaign for some time and then joined the Madras Medical Service. He specialized in Radiology at Dehra Dun in 1910. In 1917 he was appointed physician in the Government General Hospital with the rank of Civil Surgeon. In 1920, he took his Doctorate in Medicine in the very first year of the institution of the degree. He became the first Indian Professor of Meteria Medica, a post till then reserved for I.M.S. Officers. Deputed by the Government, Dr. M. R. Guruswami Mudaliar studied methods of instruction in Therapeutics in the United Kingdom. He held the post of Professor of Therapeutics till his retirement in 1937.

On retirement, he was appointed as Honorary Director of Indigenous Medicine, which post he held till 1955. During his tenure of office as the Honorary Director, the school was up-graded into a college and several research schemes and in particular the scheme to train village vaidyas were introduced. He was the President of the Indian Medical Association.

He was connected with the Madras University in many capacities and he rendered very distinguished services and, in recognition of his great services in this field, the Degree of Doctor of Science (*Honoris causa*) was conferred on him at the time of the special convocation held in connexion with the Centenary Celebrations, 1957.

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Eminent as he was as a Physician, reputed for his quick and correct diagnosis and the efficacy of his prescriptions which had international recognition, Dr. M. R. Guruswami Mudaliar was, as once described by Dr. C. R. Reddi, the Gandhi of the Medical Profession. His heart was full of the milk of human kindness and love for the sick and the poor to whom he ever endeavoured to bring succour and relief, with the help of the science of Medicine in which he made so great a mark and attained a place of pre-eminence. Everyday he set apart a few hours for free consultations for the benefit of the poor and the lowly. He almost became an Institution and a legend for diagnosis and prescription and streams of visitors wended their way to his house everyday in search of cure for their ailments.

Being of a religious disposition, he gave generous donations for renovation and improvement of temples. He was connected with various institutions and the T.T.V. High Schools will ever stand as monuments of his services in the cause of education. He gave freely whatever he earned. The Citizens' meeting held in 1956 presided over by the then Governor and addressed by Sri C. Rajagopalachari, among others, at which high tributes were paid, was a signal honour conferred on this eminent physician endowed with a heart full of love for humanity and a deep sense of duty and service. His nomination to the Council was another recognition of his services in the field of medical science and social service.

Though his term of membership was short, his august presence in the Council added to its dignity and usefulness. On those rare occasions he rose to speak, he was listened to with respect and attention and his contributions to the debates were very much valued.

His demise creates a void in the medical profession which will never be filled adequately. His unique and remarkable personality had endeared him to all classes and his death is deeply mourned by all sections of the people. "He was not only a great doctor but a great soul who led the life of a saint".

I now move the Condolence Resolution, namely—

"This House places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the demise of Dr. M. R. Guruswami Mudaliar, a Member of this House, and conveys its profound sympathy to the members of his bereaved family."

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, while, at the outset, I offer my welcome to the eminent persons who have adorned this House, it is also my melancholic duty to refer to the passing of the distinguished Member of this House, Dr. Guruswami Mudaliar. Sir, Dr. Guruswami Mudaliar was functioning in this House only for a very brief period. Even during that brief period, he functioned with a sense of duty and earnestness and with all dignity. As hon. Members are aware,

whether in this House or outside, he spoke only a few words. But whenever he spoke, we listened to his words of wisdom. He was so keenly interested in the proceedings of this House that he was regularly attending the meetings of this House, although he had other pressing work to attend to as a physician. Even when he was ailing—even when he was confined to bed—I was told by his son that one day when he learnt that this House was in session, 3-30 p.m. he wanted to participate in the discussions. But he was gently persuaded by his people that he might wait for a few more days when he might get better and that then he could come and attend the meeting of this Council. But that was not to be. He was an eminent and popular physician who was accessible alike to the rich and the poor. As pointed out by you, Sir, his was a wonderful diagnosis. This old doctor was particularly popular among the students even of the present generation. In fact, he was adored by the students.

Being an eminent physician in the allopathic system, he did take considerable interest in other systems of medicine. And the Government rightly appointed him the Honorary Director of the College of Integrated Medicine, and he discharged that honorary work with all earnestness. He did believe in a proper synthesis of all the various useful systems of medicine.

Extremely pious as he was, as pointed out by you, Sir, he was cosmopolitan in his outlook. He was particularly interested in the renovation of the ancient temples of renown and historic importance.

Sir, as pointed out by you, he was particularly interested in the educational advancement of our children. He himself sponsored and promoted a high school in which, I know, he took very keen personal interest to the end of his life. If that school is what it is to-day, it owes considerably to the interest that Dr. Guruswami Mudaliar took. It was indeed a very rare distinction that the University of Madras conferred—they too confer such honours on very few persons—on Dr. Guruswami Mudaliar, namely, the Doctorate of Science.

Sir, I commend this Resolution for the unanimous acceptance of this House.

*DR. V. K. JOHN: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I associate myself and the Opposition with the tributes you have paid to the late Dr. Guruswami Mudaliar and the sentiments you have expressed in your speech and also the tributes paid and the sentiments expressed by the Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam in his speech. In many fields of activity Dr. Guruswami Mudaliar distinguished himself. As a student, as a professor, as a doctor, as an educationist, as a philanthropist, as a Member of the Legislature and more than everything else as a man, I do not think that he had many

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equals and any superior. In one field he set an example to professionals, whether they be doctors, lawyers or any other professionals. He devoted part of his time to, and spent much of his money on, the service of the poor. Every day hundreds of people, poor people, sought his advice free and tens of thousands of poor people who never could have had a chance to see and consult so eminent a doctor as Dr. Guruswami Mudaliar consulted him free and took his advice. I think the example he set for a professional man will be emulated and followed by other professional people, not only doctors but also lawyers and others.

Sir, as a Member of this House, he belonged to the category of Members who attended the meetings regularly, listened to the speeches carefully and spoke very rarely. But when he spoke, you would have noted, Sir, he was listened to in silence and with rapt attention and the useful and constructive suggestions he gave to the Government and to the House were unanimously appreciated on both sides. I do not think that I could point out another Member of this House who was listened to with so much attention and weight as Dr. Guruswami Mudaliar was listened to when he spoke. In his loss we have lost not only an eminent Member of this House but also a gentleman who filled many capacities with great distinction. His loss will be felt not only by his own generation but also by generations yet unborn. I am sure that the example he set in many fields of activity will be emulated by others.

I join with you, Sir, in commending this Resolution to the House for its acceptance.

*SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR: உதவி மன்றத் தலைவர் அவர்களே, தங்கள் அனுமதி பெற்றுக்கொண்டு சில சொற்கள் சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன்.

‘அறன் அறிந்து மூத்த அறிவுடையார் கேண்மை
திறன்அறிந்து தேர்ந்து கொளல்’

என்று ஒரு திருக்குறள் உண்டு. நமது பெரியார் குருசாமி அவர்கள் அறன் அறிந்தவர். மூத்த அறிவு உடையவர். அவர் எல்லா மக்களுக்கும் உடன்பாடாக இருந்து நல்லதைச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்ற எண்ணம் கொண்டு பல துறைகளில் சேவை செய்துவந்தார். அன்னார் காலத்தில் ஒரு பெரிய உயர் நிலைப்பள்ளியை அவர் பெயரால் நிறுவினார். ஆங்கிலக் கல்வியிலும், ஆங்கில மருத்துவத்திலும் நன்றாகப் படித்து சிறப்புச் எய்தியவர். தமிழ் நாட்டிலே, தமிழருக்கு ஏற்பட்ட தமிழ் சித்த வைத்தியத்தின் அருமையையும் பெருமையையும் நன்றாக உணர்ந்து, அதற்காகப் பாடுபட்டவர். இவர் பாடுபட்டதன் பயனாக இப்பொழுது College of Integrated Medicine என்று ஒன்று இருக்கிறது. அதோடு அல்லாமல் அவர் ஒரு பெரிய உண்மையை உணர்ந்தவர்.

‘கற்றதனால் ஆய பயன் என்கொல், வாலறிவன்
நற்றாள் தொழாஅர் எனின்.’

என்று வள்ளுவர் கூறியிருக்கிறார். பல துறைகளில் கல்வி பெற்று, எல்லாம் துறைகளிலும் பெருமை அடைந்து, சம்பத் சேகரித்திருந்தாலும், எல்லாவற்றிற்கும் அடிப்படையான கடவுள் பக்தியில் ஆழ்ந்த நம்பிக்கை உடையவர் இப்பெரியார். கனம் அமைச்சர் சொல்லிய

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பிரகாரம் அவர் பல கோவில்களை அபிவிருத்தி செய்யும் திருப்பணியில் ஈடுபட்டிருந்தார். பல நன்கொடைகளையும் வழங்கியிருக்கிறார் தமிழ் நாடு உள்ள வரையிலும், தமிழ் மொழி உள்ளவரையிலும், தமிழ் மக்கள் உள்ள வரையிலும், தமிழ் சித்த வைத்தியம் உள்ளவரையிலும் அவர் பெயர் மங்காது. தமிழ் மக்கள் அவர் அன்பையும், பண்பையும் என்றும் பாராட்டக் கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர் குடும்பத்தாருக்கு என்னுடைய அனுதாபத்தைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

இந்த சமயத்தில் இந்த மன்றத்தில் அரிய பெரிய அறிஞர்கள் உறுப்பினர்களாக வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களை நான் வரவேற்கிறேன். நமது சபைக்குப் பெரியார்கள் வரும்பொழுது, வயதில் பெரியவராகிய ஸ்ரீ சக்கரை செட்டியார் அவர்கள் நம்மை விட்டுப் பிரிந்து சென்று விட்டார்கள். அதற்கு என் அனுதாபத்தைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டு, எனக்குப் பேசுவதற்கு அனுமதி அளித்த தலைவர் அவர்களுக்கு நன்றியைச் செலுத்திக்கொண்டு நான் என் உரையை முடித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I request the hon. Members to stand in silence for a few minutes and pass the Resolution unanimously.

The Resolution was passed *nem. con.*, all the Members standing in silence for a few minutes.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : As a mark of respect of the late Dr. M. R. Guruswami Mudaliar, I now adjourn the House for the day.

The House will now adjourn and meet again at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, the 9th September 1958.

The House then adjourned.

II.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

*1. *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No.* 505, *Revenue, dated* 10*th February* 1958, *regarding amendment to the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Rules*, 1939.

*2. *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No.* 511, *Revenue, dated the* 11*th February* 1958, *regarding amendment to the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Rules*, 1939.

*3. *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No.* 506, *Revenue, dated* 10*th February* 1958, *regarding amendment to the Madras Entertainments Tax Rules*, 1939.

*4. *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No.* 388, *Revenue, dated* 3*rd February* 1958, *regarding amendment to the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Rules*, 1939.

*5. *Notification issued with G.O. Ms. No.* 490, *Local Administration, dated* 19*th March* 1958, *regarding procedure for convening of meetings, payment of travelling allowance to members, etc., of the Advisory Committees appointed to advise special officers of District Boards.*